

Message Text

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17

ACTION PM-04

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 CIAE-00 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ERDA-05

ACDA-05 OMB-01 /065 W

----- 001561

R 260642Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6637

INFO AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

SECDEF

CNO

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

CINCPACFLT MAKALAPA

CONFIDENTIAL CANBERRA 6488

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, US, AS

SUBJC: NPW VISITS TO AUSTRALIA

DEFENSE MINISTER MORRISON SAID TODAY THAT NPW MATTER
SHOULD BE RESOLVED RELATIVELY SOON AND HE WAS
PERSONALLY OPTIMISTIC THAT FAVORABLE RESOLUTION
COULD BE ACHIEVED IN RELATIVELY NEAR FUTURE.

HE SAID MAJOR DIFFICULTY HAD BEEN THAT WHOLE ISSUE
WAS BADLY HANDLED IN AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT IN
THAT STATES WITH APPROPRIATE PORTS HAD TO APPROVED
AND BUREAUCRATIC BATTLE HAD BEEN CONDUCTED WITHIN
FEDERAL BUREAUCRACY WITHOUT PROPER CONSULTATION
WITH STATES. HE HAD RESOLVED THIS PROBLEM
BY PUTTING MATTER BEFORE CONFERENCE OF FEDERAL AND
STATE ENVIRONMENTAL MINISTERS. SUBSEQUENT TO
DISCUSSING MATTER WITH MORRISON, RENOUE (SECSTATE
FOREIGN AFFAIRS) RAISED SUBJECT AND SAID WHOLE
QUESTION WAS NOW A REAL MESS. INTERGOVERNMENTAL
DEFENSE POLICY COMMITTEE HAD DISCUSSED IT YESTERDAY.
DEFENSE AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS MINISTRIES SEE EYE TO EYE

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AND BELIEVE NPW VISITS SHOULD BE APPROVED BUT

"THE POLITICIANS", MEANING MORRISON AND COMPANY
HAVE REALLY SCREWED MATTERS UP BY SENDING ISSUE
TO CONFERENCE OF FEDERAL AND STATE ENVIRONMENTAL
MINISTERS. NEW ENVIRONMENTAL MINISTER BERINSON
WANTS HAVE UNCLASSIFIED ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT
STATEMENT CONSIDERED BY NATIONAL COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT.
RENOUF CLEARLY DID NOT AGREE WITH MORRISON'S ASSESSMENT
AND THOUGHT THAT ULTIMATELY MATTER WOULD ONLY BE RESOLVED BY
PM DIRECTLY TELLING CABINET COLLEAGUES TO "GET OUT OF THE
ACT" AND DECIDING MOVE AHEAD.
PERCIVAL

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Subject: : NPW VISITS TO AUSTRALIA DEFENSE MINISTER MORRISON SAID TODAY THAT NPW MATTER
TAGS: MARR, US, AS, (MORRISON)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006